

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIORITY/PCT APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of FR 03/12190, filed October 17, 2003, and is the national phase of International Application No. PCT/FR 2004/002627, filed October 14, 2004 and designating the United States, published on April 28, 2005 as WO 2005/038036 A1, each hereby expressly incorporated by reference and each assigned to the assignee hereof.

Please cancel the abstract appearing on the cover of WO 2005/038036 A1, the published version of PCT/FR2004/002627 and replace it with the following new Abstract:

The invention relates to a method for hydrolyzing fluorinated epoxy comprising one or several CF_3 groups consisting in treating an epoxy in the presence of a protein exhibiting epoxy hydrolysis (EH) activity with respect to CF_3 epoxies in such a way that an epoxy entry is promoted and a vicinal diol is formed. The inventive method makes it possible to promote hydrolysis of one of (R, S) isomers and to carry out said hydrolysis for separating said isomers and preparing epoxies or enantiopure or enantiomerically enriched diols. In a variant, said method can be used for a low or non-enantioselective hydrolysis for transforming a racemic or non-racemic epoxy into a racemic or non-racemic diol.